MAR 2 9 2004 EXPERIENCE TRANSPOSICANT: Serial No.:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Harischandra K. Mhatre) Examiner: Unknown
10/666,456) Art Unit: 3738

Filed: September 19, 2003) Confirmation No. 8361

Title: Improved Heart Valve) Atty Docket: HKM-02

Prosthesis)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment is submitted prior to prosecution on the merits of the above- identified application. Please amend this application as follows: